GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:683
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2002
INTEGRATED CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Integrated Child Development Services Projects have achieved the desired results in the country particularly in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make the ICDS projects more effective and result oriented?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The impact of the Scheme in the field of health, nutrition and educational status of the beneficiaries has been significant as brought out by the National Evaluation on ICDS (NIPCCD 1992); ICDS Survey, Evaluation and Research 1975-95 (CTC-IMCD 1995); National Concurrent Evaluationof ICDS(NCAER2000-01) and others. Currently, the ICDS covers,5652 blocks in the country with 5,95,020 sanctioned Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) in 4,587 operationalblocks with coverage of about 283 lakh children in 0-6 years and over 59 lakh pregnant and lactating mothers. In West Bengal, out of 358 sanctioned ICDSblocks, 308 blocks are operational covering 41,93,452 beneficiaries (35,82,512 children in 0-6 years and 610940 pregnant and lactating mothers).

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Steps taken to make the ICDS project more effective and resultoriented include, provisions for improved medicine kits and pre-school learning material for children in Anganwadi Centres; introduction of guidelines for strengthening of IEC and community mobilization; introduction of an innovative and decentralized training programme called "UDISHA", strengthening of monitoring mechanism, holding of regular review meeting at high level. The States, being responsible for providing supplementary nutrition, have been requested to make upward revision in the financial norms for supplemenary nutrition and budget adequately to meet the cost of supplementary nutrition to cover all eligible beneficiaries and adequate contribution from their discretionary component under PMGY for nutrition to children of 0-3 years.